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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Francis BRIAND et al.

Serial No. 09/870,014

GROUP 1725

Filed May 31, 2001

Examiner Unassigned

LASER/ARC HYBRID WELDING PROCESS WITH APPROPRIATE GAS MIXTURE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, the accompanying documents, copies of which are attached to this statement, are made of record on the enclosed sheet.

A concise explanation of the relevance of these items is that these references were cited by the European Patent Office in the corresponding European application. A copy of the European Search Report in which they were cited is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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